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ABSTRACT

This report provides and analyzes statistics on students discharged as dropouts from New York City schools during 1985-86. Annual dropout percentages are presented for individual high schools, for all high schools, and system-wide. In addition, the projected four-year dropout rate is presented for the high schools and for all schools in the system serving students age 14 and over. Dropouts are defined as those students who left school without receiving a diploma, who did not enroll in another educational setting, and who have not been counted as dropouts in previous years. For the second year in a row, there has been a clear decline in the dropout rate. A total of 7.9 percent of the city's 261,000 high school students were first-time dropouts in 1985-86, as were 8.8 percent of the 305,000 students age 14 and over, system-wide. The continued decline in the dropout rate indicates that the school system is achieving success at improving holding power. The report includes six statistical tables and the following six appendices: (1) a description of study procedures; (2) admission and discharge codes; (3) history of dropout accounting in New York City; (4) data on dropouts and graduates, 1985-86; (5) data on 1985-86 dropouts by dropout category; and (6) annual dropout percentages for each New York City high school, 1982-83 to 1985-86. (KH)

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THE 1985-1986 DROPOUT REPORT

OEA Analytic Report

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Analytic Report
O.E.A. Data Analysis Section
Raymond Domanico, Administrator
January, 1987

THE 1985-86 DROPOUT REPORT

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SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

Analyses of the dropout statistics for the 1985-86 school year indicate that for the second year in a row there has been a clear improvement in the dropout rate. A total of 7.9 percent of the city's 261 thousand high school students were first-time dropouts in 1985-86, as were 8.8 percent of the 305 thousand students age 14 and over, system-wide. Extrapolated over four years, these yield four-year dropout rates of 27.9 percent for the high schools and 30.7 percent system-wide, or a decrease of 4.6 percentage points in each rate.

This continued decline in the dropout rate reaffirms the conclusion of the previous report that the school system is making progress in its efforts to deal with this serious problem. Improvement, which was apparent in nearly every part of the school system, indicates that the schools are achieving success at increasing holding power, the crucial first step toward increasing the number of students who complete their educations.

Dropouts are defined as those students who left school during the 1985-86 school year without receiving a diploma, who did not enroll in another educational setting, and who have not been counted as dropouts in previous years. Students who left school and then enrolled in programs leading to the high school equivalency diploma are not considered dropouts, unless they drop out from the high school equivalency program. This definition is consistent with the one used in the last three annual dropout reports and matches that used by the State Education Department.

Continuing a procedure that was introduced in the 1983-84 dropout report and expanded in 1984-85, this year's analyses considered additional data sources to confirm the status of dropouts. Students identified by the State Education Department as having received high school equivalency diplomas, those who re-enrolled in school in September or October, 1986, or those who were successful participants in adult education programs operated by the Board's Office of Adult and Continuing Education were not counted as dropouts.

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THE 1985-86 DROPOUT REPORT

BACKGROUND

This report provides statistics on students discharged as dropouts during the 1985-86 school year. The statistics presented here are based on individual student records maintained by the Student Information Services section of the Office of Data Processing Coordination. These records include information on a student's current situation as well as previous admissions and discharges; information on each student's history in the school system is used to distinguish first-time dropouts from students who have left the school system as dropouts before. Following a procedure established in 1984-85, students who dropped out during the 1985-86 school year, then re-enrolled and were in school on October 31, 1986 were not counted as dropouts. This is in keeping with New York State Education Department high school re-registration practices.

Annual dropout percentages are presented for individual high schools, for all high schools, and system-wide. In addition the projected four-year dropout rate is presented for the high schools and for all schools in the system serving students age 14 and over.

The report addresses the following questions:

- How many and what proportion of New York City public school students were first-time dropouts in 1985-86?

- What schools did they attend? For what reasons did they drop out? How many students graduated during the same time period?
- Based on the number of dropouts during 1985-86, what is the estimated proportion of ninth-graders who successfully complete their high school educations? What is the proportion who drop out?
- How do the dropout statistics for 1985-86 compare with those for 1984-85?
- What was the total number of students age 14 and over who left school in 1985-86? For what reasons?

Background materials and documents are found in the Appendices. For clarity, tables are presented together at the end of the Conclusions section.

FINDINGS

High School and System-wide Dropout Rates

Analyses of 1985-86 data showed substantial continued improvement in both the high school and system-wide dropout rates. A total of 7.9 percent of the city's 261 thousand high school students were first-time dropouts in 1985-86, as were 8.8 percent of the 305 thousand students age 14 and over system-wide. Extrapolated over four years, these yield dropout rates of 27.9 percent for the high schools and 30.7 percent system-wide. These figures represent improvements of 4.6 percentage points each over the 1984-85 rates which were 32.5 percent for high schools and 35.3 percent system-wide. Tables 1 and 2 present the computation of the dropout rates; a complete presentation of all procedures and definitions appears in Appendices A and B.

Progress was apparent in nearly every part of the school system. There were 18.9 percent fewer dropouts from day high schools, 19,058 in 1985-86, compared to 23,494 in 1984-85. However, dropouts from retrieval programs increased by 8.2 percent; there were 5,222 in 1985-86 and 4,796 in 1984-85. There were 25.2 percent fewer dropouts from intermediate and junior high schools, 918 in 1985-86, compared to 1,227 in 1984-85. Dropouts from special schools decreased by 25.3 percent; there were 1,164 in 1985-86, compared to 1,558 in 1984-85. There were 27.6 percent fewer dropouts among students moving from middle school to high school, 412 in 1985-86 compared to 569 in 1984-85.

Comparability of the 1985-86 and 1984-85 Dropout Rates

The methodology and definitions used in this report match those used in the 1984-85 report. As was the case for 1984-85, in preparing the 1985-86 dropout statistics three additional data sources were examined to confirm the status of students whom the computerized student information identified as dropouts. Students whom the S.E.D. reported as having received G.E.D.s, those who re-enrolled in New York City schools in September or October 1986, and successful participants in adult basic education or high school equivalency programs operated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education were not counted as dropouts. It should be noted that students not counted as dropouts in 1984-85 because they re-enrolled in Fall 1985, and who

subsequently dropped out, are counted in this year's statistics. (See Appendix A.)

Dropout Discharge Categories

The discharge records of 74.0 percent of the students who dropped out showed only that they were over 17 and had their parents' consent to leave school. In addition, 12.2 percent were discharged to other educational settings without confirmed admission; 6.8 percent left school for employment, job training, or military service; and 7.0 percent were not found after a search by the Bureau of Attendance. This pattern was the case for dropouts from all programs except middle school and Project Reentry students; these students were most frequently discharged as not found. Table 3 presents reasons for dropout discharge for students from each type of program. Table 4 presents dropout counts by program for the past four years.

All Students Discharged from New York City Schools

In order to provide additional context for the dropout statistics, data presented in Table 5 show the total number of students age 14 and over who left school in 1985-86 and their reasons for discharge. Of the 98 thousand students discharged in 1985-86, 49.2 percent completed their educations, an increase of 2.2 percentage points over 1984-85. Confirmed first-time and previous dropouts accounted for 31.0 percent of all discharges, a decrease of 4.6 percentage

points from 1984-85. The remaining 19.8 percent were discharged in non-dropout categories. Comparison data for the past three years appear in Table 6.

Individual School Data

Individual school data for academic and vocational high schools, arranged by superintendency, and data for alternative high schools are presented in Appendices D and E. Data in Appendix D include the number of dropouts, number of graduates, enrollment, and the annual dropout percentage for each school. Appendix E shows dropout counts for each type of dropout by school. Comparison data showing school-by-school annual dropout percentages for the past four years appear in Appendix F.

CONCLUSIONS

Analyses of the dropout statistics for the 1985-86 school year indicate that although the number of New York City students who do not complete their educations remains a serious problem, the dropout rate has continued to improve over previous years. Four-year dropout rates for 1985-86 were 27.9 percent for the high schools and 30.7 percent system-wide, as compared to 1984-85 rates of 32.5 percent for the high schools and 35.3 percent system-wide. The continued decline in the dropout rate indicates that the school system is achieving success at improving holding power, the crucial first step toward increasing the number of students who complete their educations.

Table 1

Computation of Dropout Rate for New York City High Schools
1985-86

Confirmed First-time Dropouts

From Day High Schools	19,058
From Retrieval Programs (Left Day High School 1985-86)	1,466
Total	20,524

Population Base for Rate Calculation

Official Register for Academic High Schools	224,610
Official Register for Vocational High Schools	31,261
Official Register for Alternative High Schools	5,535
Total	261,406

Estimation of Dropout Rate

$$\text{Annual Dropout Percentage} = \frac{20,524}{261,406} = 7.85 \text{ percent}$$

Annual Survival Rate = 100.00 - 7.85 = 92.15 percent

Four-year Projected Survival Rate = (.9215 x .9215 x .9215 x .9215) = .7211

Four-year Projected Dropout Rate = 1.0000 - .7211 = .2789 = 27.89 percent

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NOTE: For reference purposes, in 1984-85 there were 24,496 dropouts and a population base of 261,454, for an annual dropout percentage of 9.4 percent and a projected four-year rate of 32.5 percent.

Table 2

Computation of System-wide Dropout Rate
for New York City Public Schools
1985-86

Confirmed First-time Dropouts from N.Y.C. Schools	26,774

Population Base for Rate Calculation

High School Enrollment, including Retrieval Programs	272,498
Ninth-Grade Students in Junior High Schools	24,161
Special Schools Students, Age 14 and Over (Estimated)	8,704
Total	305,363

Estimation of Dropout Rate

$$\text{Annual Dropout Percentage} = \frac{26,774}{305,363} = 8.77 \text{ percent}$$

Annual Survival Rate = 100.00 - 8.77 = 91.23 percent

Four-year Projected Survival Rate = (.9123 x .9123 x .9123 x .9123) = .6927

Four-year Projected Dropout Rate = 1.0000 - .6927 = .3073 = 30.73 percent

NOTE: For reference purposes, in 1984-85 there were 31,644 dropouts and a population base of 306,990, for an annual dropout percentage of 10.3 percent and a projected four-year rate of 35.3 percent.

Table 3

Dropouts From New York City Public Schools
By Program and Type of Discharge, 1985-86

	Confirmed First-time Dropouts	
Dropouts From Day High Schools		
Employment Certificate	693	
Job Corps or Vocational Training Center	586	
Business or Trade School	521	
Military Service	118	
Discharged to Auxiliary Services without Confirmed Admission	1,210	
Discharged to Outreach Center without Confirmed Admission	429	
Discharged to Evening High School without Confirmed Admission	871	
Other Over 17	13,895	
Not Found	735	
Total Day High School Dropouts		19,058
Dropouts from Retrieval Programs		
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	258	
Discharged to New Setting without Confirmed Admission	142	
Other Over 17	4,709	
Not Found	113	
Total Retrieval Program Dropouts		5,222

NOTE: These figures reflect the identification of G.E.D. recipients, students currently active or discharged in non-dropouts categories, and adult or continuing education students in good standing.

Table 3
(continued)

Dropouts From New York City Public Schools
By Program and Type of Discharge, 1985-86

	Confirmed First-time Dropouts	
Dropouts From Special Schools		
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	87	
Discharged to New Setting without Confirmed Admission	28	
Other Over 17	911	
Not Found	138	
Total Special Schools Dropouts		1,164
Dropouts From Intermediate and Junior High Schools		
Not Found	652	
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	77	
Other over 17	155	
Discharged to New Setting without Confirmed Admission	34	
Total I.S. and J.H.S. Dropouts		918
Project Reentry Students		
Not Found	248	
Employment, Job Training, Military Service	7	
Other Over 17	146	
Discharged to New Setting without Confirmed Admission	11	
Total Project Reentry Dropouts		412
Total	26,774	

NOTE: These figures reflect the identification of G.E.D. recipients, students currently active or discharged in non-dropout categories, and adult or continuing education students in good standing.

Table 4

Dropouts From New York City Public Schools

1982-83 to 1985-86

Type of School	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Day High School	28,791	28,207	23,494	19,058
Retrieval Programs	4,183	6,066	4,796	5,222
Special Schools	2,751	1,829	1,558	1,164
Intermediate and Junior High Schools	1,492	1,436	1,227	918
Project Reentry	1,823	1,266	569	412
Total	39,040	38,804	31,644	26,774

Table 5

All Students Age 14 and Over Who Left School in 1985-86

Discharge Category	Number of Students	Percent of All Discharges
Completed H.S. Education		
Graduated *	39,490	40.2
Received Equivalency Diploma	8,158	8.3
Early College Admission	111	0.1
Completed H.S. Special Education Program	660	0.7
	48,419	49.3
Enrolled in New Educational Setting		
Parochial School	1,390	1.4
Private School	812	0.8
Institutionalized	959	1.0
Adult or Continuing Education	616	0.6
G.E.D. Preparation	2,117	2.2
Home Instruction	48	0.0
	5,942	6.0
Other		
Moved from New York City	12,855	13.1
Deceased	169	0.2
Over 21	429	0.4
	13,453	13.7
Dropped Out		
First-time Dropout	26,774	27.2
Previous Dropout	3,763	3.8
	30,537	31.0
Total Discharges	98,351	100.0

NOTE: These figures reflect the identification of dropouts who were G.E.D. recipients, currently active or discharged in non-dropout categories, or adult education students in good standing.

* From Division of High Schools 1986 "Annual Report on Graduates."

Table 6

Number and Percentage of All Students Age 14 and Over Who Left School
By Type of Discharge Category
1983-84 to 1985-86

Discharge Category	1983-84 Number	1983-84 Percent	1984-85 Number	1984-85 Percent	1985-86 Number	1985-86 Percent
Completed H.S. Education						
Graduated	43,340	40.2	41,996	41.1	39,490	40.2
Received Equivalency Diploma	4,221	3.9	5,822	5.7	8,158	8.3
Early College Admission	150	0.1	126	0.1	111	0.1
Completed H.S. Special Education Prog.	193	0.2	74	0.1	660	0.7
Subtotal	47,904	44.4	48,018	47.0	48,419	49.3
Enrolled in New Educational Setting						
Parochial School	1,440	1.3	1,565	1.5	1,390	1.4
Private School	1,129	1.1	1,153	1.1	812	0.8
Institutionalized	993	0.9	953	0.9	959	1.0
Adult or Continuing Education	*		379	0.4	616	0.6
G.E.D. Preparation	714	0.7	1,100	1.1	2,117	2.2
Home Instruction	98	0.1	62	0.1	48	0.0
Subtotal	4,374	4.1	5,212	5.1	5,942	6.0
Other						
Moved from N.Y.C.	11,430	10.6	12,033	11.8	12,855	13.1
Deceased	191	0.2	180	0.2	169	0.2
Over 21	*		359	0.3	429	0.4
Subtotal	11,621	10.8	12,572	12.3	13,453	13.7
Dropped Out						
First-time Dropout	38,804	36.0	31,644	31.0	26,744	27.2
Previous Dropout	5,023	4.7	4,643	4.6	3,763	3.8
Subtotal	43,827	40.7	36,287	35.6	30,537	31.0
Total Discharges	107,726	100.0	102,089	100.0	98,351	100.0

* These categories were first used in 1984-85.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: PROCEDURES

DEFINITION OF DROPOUT

This report follows recent State Education Department guidelines in designating which students are counted as first-time dropouts. Accordingly, dropouts are those students who left school during the 1985-86 school year who did not re-enroll in another educational setting by November, 1986 and who had not been counted as dropouts in previous years. Students who left school and enrolled in programs which prepare them for the Test of General Educational Development (G.E.D.) leading to the high school equivalency diploma are not considered dropouts, unless they drop out from the G.E.D. program.

In New York City, students can be legally discharged from the school system once they reach age 17, and have parental consent to leave school. Students with employment certificates may leave at age 16. Students who are absent for long periods of time and who cannot be located by the Bureau of Attendance can be discharged as "not found." This report considers "not found" students age 14 or over to be dropouts.

HIGH SCHOOL AND SYSTEM-WIDE DROPOUT RATES

High School Dropout Rate

The following groups of students are included in the high school dropout rate:

- dropouts from academic, vocational, and alternative high schools; and
- dropouts from dropout retrieval programs who left an academic, vocational, or alternative high school during the same school year.

System-wide Dropout Rate

In addition to the students included in the high school dropout rate, the system-wide dropout rate includes:

- dropouts from intermediate and junior high schools;
- high school "no shows" who failed to appear at the high school to which they were assigned and were determined to be dropouts by the Bureau of Attendance;
- dropouts from special education schools; and
- dropouts from retrieval programs who did not leave a day high school during the same school year.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM

Day High Schools

Most students age 14 and over in New York City attend academic or vocational day high schools; in 1985-86 nearly 84 percent of the more than 300 thousand students between the ages of 14 and 21 attended one of these 100 schools. There are also 11 alternative high schools which served about 8,000 students who had experienced difficulties in other school

settings. Academic, vocational, and alternative schools all offer high school diplomas.

Evening High Schools

Approximately 20,000 students each semester attended one or more evening high school classes. About half of these were students simultaneously attending day high schools; the others had been formally discharged. Students discharged with three or fewer credits remaining are still eligible to receive a day high school diploma as "former students" when they complete their diploma requirements. Students who are four or more credits short of graduation when they are discharged from day high school are awarded an evening high school diploma when they complete their requirements.

Retrieval Programs

According to the 1985 annual audited register, approximately 11,500 students attended High School Division programs for students who have left regular day schooling. These retrieval programs include Auxiliary Services for High Schools (ASHS), G.E.D. programs in regular day high schools, Outreach Centers, as well as Literacy Centers for students with very low reading levels. For purposes of this report, the Schools for Pregnant Teens and the Substance Abuse Programs are also considered retrieval settings in that they serve students who have left other educational programs leading to a high school diploma. The retrieval programs,

the day high schools, and the evening high schools are all administered by the Division of High Schools.

Community School District And Project Reentry Students

A number of students age 14 and over remain outside the jurisdiction of the Division of High Schools. In 1985-86 these included: approximately 24 thousand ninth-graders in junior high schools; over-age students who had not yet moved on to high school because they had not completed the required full year on register in the final grade of intermediate or junior high school; and students who failed to appear at the high school to which they were assigned. This last group, the "no shows," are also known as Project Reentry students; if they do not eventually report to high school, they can be discharged as dropouts. Project Reentry students also include students who have been identified as at-risk of dropping out because of low attendance during the last year before high school.

Special Education Schools

Most special education students age 14 and over attend regular day high schools. The Division of Special Education also operates full-time programs for students whose handicaps preclude their participation in regular day high schools. These include the Occupational Training Centers for mentally handicapped students, day and residential treatment programs for emotionally handicapped students, and programs for

students with physical or sensory impairments.

DROPOUT ACCOUNTING

Discharge Codes

The basic data from which the dropout statistics are derived are the regular reports of student admissions and discharges submitted by the pupil accounting secretaries in each school. This information is then used to update each student's cumulative computerized record; information which has been replaced is stored as "history."

Students may be discharged from New York City schools in one of over twenty categories; six are considered dropout discharges as such. These include: leaving school after obtaining an employment certificate; entering military service; attending a business or trade school; joining the Job Corps or other vocational training; not found after a search by the Bureau of Attendance; and all others over 17 who leave school with parental consent. Other students counted as dropouts are those discharged to a retrieval program or evening high schools without confirmed admission.

Non-dropout discharge codes include any confirmed transfer to another educational setting, including home instruction; moving from New York City; and several types of completion of one's high school career, such as graduation, early admission to college, receiving a high school equivalency diploma, and completion of the goals outlined on the special education I.E.P; and, new in 1984-85, reaching age

21. (For a listing of all discharge and admission categories, see Appendix B.)

Dropout Counts

In order to determine the basic dropout count for the 1985-86 school year, all records for students between 14 and 21 years of age were examined. From these records the Office of Data Processing Coordination Student Information Services (O.D.P.C., S.I.S.) identified all students discharged as dropouts between September 1, 1985 and June 30, 1986 and in November, 1986 sent the schools a name-by-name listing for verification of each student's status as a 1985-86 dropout. O.D.P.C., S.I.S. also inspected the records of all students discharged to retrieval programs to confirm that all admissions to new settings had been recorded; any students whose admissions could not be confirmed were considered dropouts. Following the completion of these dropout verification procedures and updating of the students records, dropout counts were computed.

Several new procedures instituted in 1984-85 were continued in 1985-86. All have the effect of crediting the schools and school system for students who either continue or complete their education after having initially dropped out of school. All of the changes are also consistent with the S.E.D.'s practices when reviewing school retention rates for school registration purposes.

First, the report does not count as dropouts any students who were active in the school system or who had been discharged in a non-dropout discharge category as of October 31, 1986. This methodology first identifies all students who dropped out of school in the 1985-86 school year and then searches for them in the October 31, 1986 version of the computerized student information system. Any students found in active status or in non-dropout discharge status are removed from the count of dropouts.

However, a student who subsequently drops out will be included in the following year's dropout count. For example, 1984-85 dropouts who returned to school in September or October 1985 and then dropped out appear in the 1985-86 dropout count.

Second, students who left the New York City Public Schools and enrolled in adult or continuing education programs are not counted as dropouts. The methodology is the same as that extending the accounting year to October 31; all dropouts are identified and then any found on the adult education registers are deleted from the count of dropouts. (Students reported to have left their adult education program are not deleted from the dropout count.)

Third, students who left the New York City Public schools and subsequently received a G.E.D. from the S.E.D. are not considered dropouts. Before 1984-85 the only students credited with receiving a G.E.D. were those who

reported this information to the schools themselves. However, beginning in 1984-85 the S.E.D. provided a computer file of all New York City residents who received G.E.D.s. The status of any students found on this file has been updated to reflect the G.E.D.; any dropouts who received the G.E.D. are removed from the count of dropouts.

Finally, the report has a more accurate accounting of students discharged to evening high schools. Evening high schools staff verified the admission of all students discharged to evening high schools. Only those evening high school students who did not graduate by Fall, 1986 or whose admission could not be confirmed are counted as dropouts. Until 1984-85 all evening high school students who did not graduate were counted as dropouts.

Estimation of the Dropout Rate

Past reports have defined the dropout rate as the proportion of students who do not complete high school. The most direct way to calculate this rate would be to follow each year's entering ninth-graders as they proceed through school. However, since reliable, computerized data were not available until 1981-82, the first opportunity for such a cohort study did not occur until after the 1984-85 school year. Accordingly, as in previous years, this report uses a procedure known as the survival rate method to compute an estimate of the four-year dropout rate.

The survival rate method projects the annual dropout

percentage over four years. One rationale for this method is as follows: if the high school population as a whole loses a certain proportion of its students each year, each grade, on average, is also losing students at roughly the same rate. For example, if 10 percent of the students drop out in a single year, one may assume that roughly 10 percent of the students in each grade drop out each year; conversely, each year 90 percent remain. Applying this proportion over four years yields an estimated percentage of ninth-graders who complete high school as well as the corresponding percentage of students who drop out.

APPENDIX B: ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE CODES

ADMISSION CODE TABLE

Admission from another N.Y.C. Public School.....50
Admission from N.Y.C. Parochial School (not readmission)..51
Admission from Board of Education Home Instruction.....52
Readmission into the N.Y.C. Public School system following formal discharge out of N.Y.C. Public School system within the same school year.
- from parochial school.....53
- from other (private school, other cities, period of non-enrollment, etc.).....54

Readmission into the N.Y.C. Public School system following formal discharge out of the N.Y.C. Public School system in a previous school year.
- from parochial school.....55
- from other (private school, other cities, period of non-enrollment, etc.).....56

Admission-first time entrant into the N.Y.C. Public School system, other than from parochial school (includes Kindergarten and Grade 1 new entrants and pupils from private schools, other cities, etc.).....58

DISCHARGE CODE TABLE

Admitted to other N.Y.C. Public School.....00
Graduated High School Diploma or Special Education Certificate.....01
Obtained Employment Certificate.....02
Under 6 Years Old.....04
Admitted to Parochial School.....06
Admitted to Business. or Trade School.....07
Admitted to Private School.....08
Private Instruction at Home (Non-Board of Education).....09
In Institution (Non-Board of Education).....10
Removal from New York City.....11
Not Found.....12
Deceased.....15
Home Instruction (Board of Education).....17
Enrolled in a College Early Admission Program prior to graduation from High School.....20
Over 21 Years Old.....21

"OVER 17" DISCHARGE CODE TABLE

To be used in conjunction with official regulations for the discharge of students who are 17 years of age or older.

Received New York State High School Equivalency Diploma.....30
Enrolled in Auxiliary Services for the High Schools.....31
Enrolled in an Outreach Center.....32
Enrolled in a N.Y.C. Public Evening High School to continue work toward a High School Diploma.....33
Enrolled in Job corps or other similar vocational training program, including OVR.....34
Entered Military Service.....35
Enrolled in a full-time High School Equivalency program other than in Auxiliary Services or Outreach Centers.....36
Special Education "High School Completer".....37
Other - Over 17, not included in any categories above.....39

APPENDIX C:

HISTORY OF DROPOUT ACCOUNTING IN NEW YORK CITY

HISTORY OF DROPOUT ACCOUNTING IN NEW YORK CITY

Until 1981-82, dropout statistics were based on tabulations of admissions, discharges, and graduates which were collected by the schools and submitted to the central offices of the Board of Education. With the establishment of a computerized student information system, the Biofile, it became possible to relate these data to individual student records, and to identify students who dropped out but then re-enrolled. The historical records on the Biofile also made it possible to avoid duplicate counts of students who dropped out, returned to school, and then dropped out again.

Since 1977-78 the school system has greatly expanded its student information system. Improved accounting procedures, data collection methods, and definitions of dropout codes have all contributed to an increasingly accurate presentation of dropout statistics. At the same time, such improvements reduce the comparability of the annual dropout estimate from one year to the next. However, findings from previous reports do give some indication of the magnitude of the problem. Projected four-year dropout rates, all of which were based on aggregate data, were as follows: for academic year 1977-78, 44.3 percent; for 1978-79, 47.3 percent; and for 1980-81, 46.8 percent. In 1981-82 two rates were reported; the first, computed in the same way as the previous three years, was 45 percent, and the second, which did not count as dropouts any students who re-enrolled within the

same school year, was 41.4 percent. All figures from 1977-78 to 1981-82 refer only to students attending academic, vocational, and alternative day high schools.

In 1982-83, dropout accounting was expanded to include all students served by the school system who were of high-school age; i.e., 14 to 21 years. Data were gathered for community school district students attending intermediate and junior high schools, special education students, and students attending dropout retrieval programs designed for high-risk students. In order to provide more information about the reasons students leave school, additional discharge categories were defined for use by the schools. Finally, continuing with the procedure established in 1981-82, an attempt was made to include only first-time dropouts. The estimated four-year rate for day high schools was 38.4 percent and the rate for all programs serving students age 14 and over was 41.7 percent.

Procedures in 1983-84 were essentially the same as in 1982-83. The estimated four-year rate for day high schools was 38.4 percent and the rate for all programs serving students age 14 and over was 41.9 percent. In 1984-85 procedures were introduced which credit the school system for students who either continue or complete their education after having initially dropped out of school. (See Appendix A.) The estimated four-year rate in 1984-85 for day high

schools was 32.5 percent and the system-wide rate was 35.3 percent.

Past documents on the dropout rate include: The Dropout Report (October 16, 1979); High School Dropout Statistics, 1981-82 (March, 1983); Dropouts from New York Public Schools, 1982-83 (Spring 1984); The 1983-84 Dropout Report, (Spring 1985); and The 1984-85 Dropout Report.

APPENDIX D:

DROPOUTS AND GRADUATES FROM NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, 1985-86

Dropouts and Graduates From New York City High Schools
1985-86

School	Dropouts	Oct.'85 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
A. Philip Randolph	28	1,533	1.8	146
F. H. LaGuardia	82	2,530	3.2	460
George Washington	453	3,401	13.3	350
Humanities	42	1,403	3.0	157
Julia Richman	426	3,333	12.8	414
Louis D. Brandeis	325	2,844	11.4	400
Martin Luther King, Jr.	352	2,800	12.6	236
Math and Science	13	1,084	1.2	156
Murry Bergtraum	63	2,943	2.1	480
Norman Thomas	142	2,968	4.8	504
Park West	287	3,003	9.6	391
Seward Park	380	3,611	10.5	533
Stuyvesant	7	2,666	0.3	692
Washington Irving	282	2,642	10.7	307
Manhattan	2,882	36,761	7.8	5,226
Adlai E. Stevenson	445	4,877	9.1	539
Bronx H.S. of Science	10	3,007	0.3	729
Christopher Columbus	339	2,768	12.2	460
Dewitt Clinton	176	4,026	4.4	298
Evander Childs	409	3,517	11.6	401
Harry S. Truman	137	2,390	5.7	395
Herbert H. Lehman	216	2,348	9.2	332
James Monroe	310	2,099	14.8	220
John F. Kennedy	504	5,739	8.8	828
Morris	279	2,028	13.8	149
South Bronx	85	984	8.6	85
Theodore Roosevelt	391	3,470	11.3	337
Walton	422	3,742	11.3	408
William H. Taft	536	3,016	17.8	273
Bronx	4,259	44,011	9.7	5,454

Dropouts and Graduates From New York City High Schools
1985-86
(continued)

School	Dropouts	Oct.'85 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
Bushwick	254	2,417	10.5	218
Canarsie	117	2,012	5.8	383
Clara Barton	61	2,307	2.6	457
Edward R. Murrow	42	2,973	1.4	603
Erasmus Hall	486	3,925	12.4	416
Franklin D. Roosevelt	157	3,515	4.5	490
George W. Wingate	228	2,666	8.6	363
James Madison	165	3,054	5.4	570
John Dewey	99	3,598	2.8	642
Midwood	85	2,625	3.2	529
New Utrecht	203	2,991	6.8	528
Paul Robeson	2	276	0.7	*
Prospect Heights	207	2,621	7.9	280
Samuel J. Tilden	157	2,740	5.7	512
Sheepshead Bay	156	2,755	5.7	436
South Shore	182	3,825	4.8	677
Thomas Jefferson	284	2,218	12.8	211
Brooklyn	2,885	46,518	6.2	7,315
Abraham Lincoln	130	1,933	6.7	354
Boys and Girls	367	3,680	10.0	290
Brooklyn Technical	57	4,296	1.3	881
Curtis	87	1,878	4.6	294
Eastern District	367	3,359	10.9	324
Fort Hamilton	270	2,775	9.7	506
John Jay	276	2,873	9.6	393
Lafayette	134	2,556	5.2	333
New Dorp	165	3,280	5.0	621
Port Richmond	123	2,624	4.7	483
Sarah J. Hale	141	2,337	6.0	269
Susan Wagner	116	2,639	4.4	470
Telecommunications	1	280	0.4	*
Tottenville	143	3,843	3.7	895
BASIS	2,377	38,353	6.2	6,113

* Paul Robeson and Telecommunications did not have a graduating class in 1985-86.

Dropouts and Graduates From New York City High Schools
1985-86
(continued)

School	Dropouts	Oct.'85 Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
Andrew Jackson	324	2,955	11.0	455
August Martin	56	2,275	2.5	392
Bayside	142	2,512	5.7	531
Beach Channel	185	2,283	8.1	390
Benjamin Cardozo	113	2,668	4.2	505
Far Rockaway	223	2,533	8.8	316
Flushing	123	2,141	5.7	344
Forest Hills	128	3,105	4.1	731
Francis Lewis	116	1,896	6.1	394
Franklin K. Lane	514	4,363	11.8	630
Grover Cleveland	291	2,989	9.7	568
Hillcrest	177	3,683	4.8	692
Jamaica	86	2,673	3.2	522
John Adams	285	3,174	9.0	470
John Bowne	110	3,143	3.5	632
Long Island City	174	2,189	7.9	462
Martin Van Buren	56	2,158	2.6	445
Newtown	161	4,207	3.8	770
Richmond Hill	183	1,956	9.4	296
Springfield Gardens	166	2,301	7.2	423
Townsend Harris	0	412	0.0	*
William C. Bryant	351	3,152	11.1	555
Queens	3,964	58,768	6.7	10,523
Alfred E. Smith	87	1,489	5.8	144
Art & Design	45	2,129	2.1	282
Automotive	92	1,488	6.2	149
Aviation	51	2,307	2.2	373
Chelsea	77	1,170	6.6	146
East New York	86	1,335	6.4	117
Eli Whitney	166	1,692	9.8	177
Fashion Industries	107	2,003	5.3	291
George Westinghouse	63	2,022	3.1	294
Grace Dodge	94	1,889	5.0	287
Graphic Comm. Arts	123	1,691	7.3	175
Jane Addams	115	1,474	7.8	251
Mabel D. Bacon	52	1,274	4.1	200
Queens Vocational	72	1,462	4.9	144
Ralph McKee	40	1,215	3.3	196
Samuel Gompers	80	1,687	4.7	201
Thomas Edison	142	1,899	7.5	300
William E. Grady	92	1,683	5.5	204
William H. Maxwell	87	1,372	6.3	199
Vocational High Schools	1,671	31,281	5.3	4,130

* Townsend Harris did not have a graduating class in 1985-86.

Dropouts and Graduates From New York City High Schools
1985-86
(continued)

School	Dropouts	Total Register	Dropout Percentage	Graduates
Bronx Regional	87	530	16.4	55
City-As-School	91	986	9.2	263
Concord	44	376	11.7	42
H.S. Redirection	185	977	18.9	52
Lower East Side Prep	125	940	13.3	94
Middle College	45	671	6.7	81
Pacific	77	636	12.1	90
Park East	101	565	17.9	48
Satellite Academy	121	1,152	10.5	200
Street Academy	34	366	9.3	25
West Side	110	625	17.6	86
Alternative High Schools	1,020	7,824	13.0	1,036

NOTE: Total register is the opening period register plus all admissions during the year.

APPENDIX E:

DROPOUTS FROM NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS, BY DROPOUT CATEGORY

Dropouts From New York City High Schools, By Dropout Category
1985-1986

School	Employment, Job Training, Military	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
A. Philip Randolph	1	4	20	3	28
F. H. LaGuardia	8	2	68	4	82
George Washington	30	72	345	6	453
Humanities	3	0	32	7	42
Julia Richman	16	32	377	1	426
Louis D. Brandeis	13	31	276	5	325
Martin Luther King, Jr.	14	17	290	31	352
Math and Science	0	1	12	0	13
Murry Bergtraum	4	4	55	0	63
Norman Thomas	3	17	121	1	142
Park West	19	15	243	10	287
Seward Park	114	60	197	9	380
Stuyvesant	0	2	4	1	7
Washington Irving	22	32	220	8	282
Manhattan	247	289	2,260	86	2,882
Adlai E. Stevenson	56	27	339	23	445
Bronx H.S. of Science	0	2	8	0	10
Christopher Columbus	12	30	292	5	339
Dewitt Clinton	15	20	119	22	176
Evander Childs	51	93	254	11	409
Harry S. Truman	21	8	102	6	137
Herbert H. Lehman	13	2	199	2	216
James Monroe	41	17	250	2	310
John F. Kennedy	46	18	424	16	504
Morris	30	48	176	25	279
South Bronx	15	4	57	9	85
Theodore Roosevelt	75	56	243	17	391
Walton	28	49	340	5	422
William H. Taft	82	44	395	15	536
Bronx	485	418	3,198	158	4,259

Dropouts From New York City High Schools, By Dropout Category
1985-86
(Continued)

School	Employment, Job Training, Military	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
Bushwick	28	27	167	32	254
Canarsie	20	16	76	5	117
Clara Barton	6	13	42	0	61
Edward R. Murrow	3	10	28	1	42
Erasmus Hall	20	20	418	28	486
Franklin D. Roosevelt	14	8	130	5	157
George W. Wingate	13	38	174	3	228
James Madison	24	6	127	8	165
John Dewey	10	3	82	4	99
Midwood	5	7	69	4	85
New Utrecht	20	2	174	7	203
Paul Robeson	0	0	1	1	2
Prospect Heights	21	19	164	3	207
Samuel J. Tilden	16	42	83	16	157
Sheepshead Bay	17	5	121	13	156
South Shore	24	25	124	9	182
Thomas Jefferson	57	10	193	24	284
Brooklyn	298	251	2,173	163	2,885
Abraham Lincoln	14	77	37	2	130
Boys and Girls	36	115	210	6	367
Brooklyn Technical	4	10	43	0	57
Curtis	15	6	64	2	87
Eastern District	18	88	238	23	367
Fort Hamilton	4	0	266	0	270
John Jay	36	6	230	4	276
Lafayette	24	18	90	2	134
New Dorp	10	48	98	9	165
Port Richmond	15	13	91	4	123
Sarah J. Hale	22	11	100	8	141
Susan Wagner	8	25	79	4	116
Telecommunications	0	0	1	0	1
Tottenville	13	10	117	3	143
BASIS	219	427	1,664	67	2,377

Dropouts From New York City High Schools, By Dropout Category
1985-86
(Continued)

School	Employment, Job Training, Military	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
Andrew Jackson	26	42	240	16	324
August Martin	6	9	39	2	56
Bayside	11	58	68	5	142
Beach Channel	40	69	72	4	185
Benjamin Cardozo	12	57	43	1	113
Far Rockaway	17	5	185	16	223
Flushing	17	49	51	6	123
Forest Hills	9	11	105	3	128
Francis Lewis	12	6	85	13	116
Franklin K. Lane	47	20	418	29	514
Grover Cleveland	39	151	101	0	291
Hillcrest	22	8	122	25	177
Jamaica	20	21	40	5	86
John Adams	36	53	184	12	285
John Bowne	13	57	38	2	110
Long Island City	12	41	107	14	174
Martin Van Buren	12	2	41	1	56
Newtown	7	26	121	7	161
Richmond Hill	23	11	146	3	183
Springfield Gardens	18	39	103	6	166
Townsend Harris	0	0	0	0	0
William C. Bryant	19	40	290	2	351
Queens	418	775	2,599	172	3,964
Alfred E. Smith	17	7	63	0	87
Art & Design	1	11	31	2	45
Automotive	16	18	58	0	92
Aviation	4	1	46	0	51
Chelsea	3	1	73	0	77
East New York	3	20	56	7	86
Eli Whitney	12	53	93	8	166
Fashion Industries	11	11	82	3	107
George Westinghouse	19	11	30	3	63
Grace Dodge	11	24	43	16	94
Graphic Comm. Arts	8	3	108	4	123
Jane Addams	4	18	90	3	115
Mabel D. Bacon	5	4	40	3	52
Queens Vocational	5	0	64	3	72
Ralph McKee	5	10	25	0	40
Samuel Gompers	11	15	52	2	80
Thomas Edison	17	37	86	2	142
William E. Grady	12	16	64	0	92
William H. Maxwell	4	6	75	2	87
Vocational High Schools	168	266	1,179	58	1,671

Dropouts From New York City High Schools, By Dropout Category
1985-86
(Continued)

School	Employment, Job Training, Military	Discharged to New Setting Without Confirmed Admission	Other Over 17	Not Found	Total Dropouts
Bronx Regional	14	6	67	0	87
City-As-School	5	4	82	0	91
Concord	5	13	22	4	44
H.S. Redirection	11	10	160	4	185
Lower East Side Prep	1	5	119	0	125
Middle College	2	22	21	0	45
Pacific	8	3	64	2	77
Park East	0	5	93	3	101
Satellite Academy	7	2	96	16	121
Street Academy	4	4	24	2	34
West Side	26	10	74	0	110
Alternative High Schools	83	84	822	31	1,020
Citywide Totals	1,918	2,510	13,895	735	19,058

APPENDIX F:

ANNUAL DROPOUT PERCENTAGES FOR EACH NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOL

1982-83 to 1985-86

Annual Dropout Percentages
1982-83 to 1985-86

School	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86
A. Philip Randolph	3.5	1.5	1.5	1.8
F. H. LaGuardia	2.3	2.2	1.9	3.2
George Washington	17.3	15.3	15.3	13.3
Humanities	NA	2.6	2.1	3.0
Julia Richman	11.5	16.2	14.6	12.8
Louis D. Brandeis	17.1	20.5	13.5	11.4
Martin Luther King, Jr.	15.9	15.3	16.2	12.6
Math and Science	0.0	0.3	0.1	1.2
Murry Bergtraum	3.2	2.2	2.0	2.1
Norman Thomas	4.1	5.8	5.0	4.8
Park West	11.3	14.8	13.7	9.6
Seward Park	13.5	13.4	12.8	10.5
Stuyvesant	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3
Washington Irving	13.2	13.5	11.7	10.7
Manhattan	10.6	10.9	9.3	7.8
Adlai E. Stevenson	15.8	11.7	9.8	9.1
Bronx H.S. of Science	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3
Christopher Columbus	13.1	11.7	10.6	12.2
Dewitt Clinton	16.4	12.6	8.4	4.4
Evander Childs	9.5	20.6	13.4	11.6
Harry S. Truman	6.5	5.3	6.2	5.7
Herbert H. Lehman	11.3	10.3	10.2	9.2
James Monroe	22.3	19.5	15.1	14.8
John F. Kennedy	13.6	14.2	9.4	8.8
Morris	16.7	14.8	18.9	13.8
South Bronx	16.4	6.2	16.2	8.6
Theodore Roosevelt	24.9	11.5	26.1	11.3
Walton	13.4	11.1	10.2	11.3
William H. Taft	13.8	19.3	19.7	17.8
Bronx	13.7	12.4	12.1	9.7

Annual Dropout Percentages
1982-83 to 1985-86
(continued)

School	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86
Bushwick	21.0	17.6	13.6	10.5
Canarsie	10.1	9.5	8.6	5.8
Clara Barton	4.1	3.1	2.8	2.6
Edward R. Murrow	3.0	3.4	1.6	1.4
Erasmus Hall	11.5	14.7	9.0	12.4
Franklin D. Roosevelt	13.3	14.1	10.1	4.5
George W. Wingate	14.4	14.3	10.2	8.6
James Madison	12.1	9.3	6.8	5.4
John Dewey	3.4	3.6	2.7	2.8
Midwood	6.3	5.9	2.9	3.2
New Utrecht	10.5	8.4	9.9	6.8
Paul Robeson	NA	NA	NA	0.7
Prospect Heights	11.6	18.4	6.3	7.9
Samuel J. Tilden	6.1	9.1	6.9	5.7
Sheepshead Bay	7.7	14.0	7.1	5.7
South Shore	5.6	9.8	5.1	4.8
Thomas Jefferson	19.9	19.7	10.7	12.8
Brooklyn	9.9	10.7	7.0	6.2
Abraham Lincoln	10.6	9.5	7.9	6.7
Boys and Girls	20.0	17.5	12.9	10.0
Brooklyn Technical	3.0	2.6	2.3	1.3
Curtis	7.3	9.1	9.0	4.6
Eastern District	19.1	20.5	18.0	10.9
Fort Hamilton	14.9	14.9	11.6	9.7
John Jay	24.0	18.2	13.4	9.6
Lafayette	8.6	17.9	14.6	5.2
New Dorp	4.3	7.7	6.1	5.0
Port Richmond	4.5	6.4	3.9	4.7
Sarah J. Hale	20.0	14.3	12.2	6.0
Susan Wagner	5.1	5.9	4.3	4.4
Telecommunications	NA	NA	NA	0.4
Tottenville	4.7	6.3	4.6	3.7
BASIS	10.7	11.4	9.2	6.2

Annual Dropout Percentages
1982-83 to 1985-86
(continued)

School	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86
Andrew Jackson	16.9	8.2	10.0	11.0
August Martin	3.3	2.8	2.7	2.5
Bayside	4.5	5.8	7.0	5.7
Beach Channel	9.0	7.3	6.9	8.1
Benjamin Cardozo	5.4	4.5	4.6	4.2
Far Rockaway	8.4	9.5	11.0	8.8
Flushing	10.9	10.5	8.3	5.7
Forest Hills	6.0	6.1	5.0	4.1
Francis Lewis	9.4	8.7	8.0	6.1
Franklin K. Lane	17.2	14.3	12.7	11.8
Grover Cleveland	11.1	11.4	10.4	9.7
Hillcrest	7.7	7.1	5.9	4.8
Jamaica	3.9	5.5	4.7	3.2
John Adams	10.3	12.4	9.3	9.0
John Bowne	8.8	7.8	6.1	3.5
Long Island City	12.6	9.4	10.7	7.9
Martin Van Buren	4.0	3.0	3.4	2.6
Newtown	10.8	10.7	9.1	3.8
Richmond Hill	11.5	14.5	10.8	9.4
Springfield Gardens	9.4	12.5	9.6	7.2
Townsend Harris	NA	NA	0.0	0.0
William C. Bryant	14.7	11.1	10.8	11.1
Queens	9.8	9.0	8.1	6.7

Annual Dropout Percentages
1982-83 to 1985-86
(continued)

School	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86
Alfred E. Smith	3.5	11.1	13.1	5.8
Art & Design	3.9	3.6	2.1	2.1
Automotive	4.7	8.1	8.7	6.2
Aviation	3.3	4.5	3.4	2.2
Chelsea	9.3	11.3	9.9	6.6
East New York	14.5	10.0	6.5	6.4
Eli Whitney	9.7	14.4	14.6	9.8
Fashion Industries	6.3	7.1	8.0	5.3
George Westinghouse	1.9	6.5	2.3	3.1
Grace Dodge	4.4	6.2	8.4	5.0
Graphic Comm. Arts	NA	9.9	7.2	7.3
Jane Addams	7.2	10.2	7.3	7.8
Mabel D. Bacon	4.4	7.1	5.2	4.1
Queens Vocational	13.0	10.6	9.5	4.9
Ralph McKee	5.3	4.1	3.6	3.3
Samuel Gompers	10.4	7.5	6.2	4.7
Thomas Edison	6.8	9.2	6.3	7.5
William E. Grady	7.9	10.3	6.3	5.5
William H. Maxwell	9.6	9.8	9.5	6.3
Vocational H. S.	7.0	8.9	7.1	5.3
Bronx Regional	14.7	20.2	20.1	16.4
City-As-School	23.4	19.3	15.7	9.2
Concord	6.7	9.7	6.0	11.7
H.S. Redirection	30.5	22.8	23.1	18.9
Lower East Side Prep	20.1	19.4	12.7	13.3
Middle College	12.0	10.9	5.8	6.7
Pacific	18.6	19.4	5.8	12.1
Park East	21.4	18.9	11.8	17.9
Satellite Academy	13.6	13.0	9.2	10.5
Street Academy	NA	3.3	8.4	9.3
West Side	23.4	12.9	12.8	17.6
Alternative H. S.	19.2	16.7	12.5	13.0
All Day High Schools	11.4	11.4	9.4	7.9